

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 02935 251122Z

16

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 SCA-01 PPT-01 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01

PA-01 JUSE-00 H-02 INR-07 SY-05 /051 W

----- 042631

O 251058Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9708

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2935

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT KS

SUBJECT: FATHER SINNOT ORDERED TO LEAVE KOREA

1. MARYKNOLL FATHER JAMES SINNOT WAS DIRECTED TO APPEAR APRIL 25 AT INCHON IMMIGRATION OFFICE, WHERE HE WAS INFORMED THAT HIS RESIDENCE PERMIT COULD NOT BE EXTENDED AND THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE KOREA BY APRIL 30.

2. IN PRESENCE OF CONSULAR OFFICER, INCHON IMMIGRATION OFFICE CHIEF INFORMED FATHER THAT AUTHORITY TO REFUSE RENEWAL OF RESIDENCE PERMIT WAS BASED ON PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ON EXIT AND ENTRANCE, ARTICLE 23, PARA 4. (WHICH ESSENTIALLY STATES THAT DEPARTURE FROM KOREA MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN 14 DAYS OF REFUSAL TO EXTEND RESIDENCE PERMIT). IMMIGRATION OFFICER SAID RIGHT OF APPEAL WAS NOT APPLICABLE SINCE FATHER SINNOTT'S RESIDENCE PERMIT WOULD EXPIRE BY DEPARTURE DATE (CITED ARTICLE MAKES NO PROVISION FOR APPEAL). NO REASONS WERE STATED FOR REFUSAL TO EXTEND PERMIT. HOWEVER, IMMIGRATION CHIEF SAID THAT FATHER COULD MAKE DIRECT PERSONAL APPEAL TO MINISTER OF JUSTICE PRIOR TO APRIL 30 DEADLINE.

3. EARLIER IN AFTERNOON, BEFORE NOTIFICATION TO SINNOTT, AMBASSADOR SPOKE TO FONMIN, WARNING AGAIN OF ADVERSE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 02935 251122Z

AFFECTS OF NOT RENEWING SINNOTT'S RESIDENCE PERMIT.

FONMIN WAS AT THAT TIME UNAWARE OF ACTION AGAINST SINNOTT AND SEEMED IMPRESSED BY ARGUMENTATION.

4. AFTER BEING INFORMED OF ACTION, AMBASSADOR, AT SINNOTT'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE, SPOKE TO PRIMIN'S OFFICE AND TO FONMIN. PRIMIN ASKED AMBASSADOR TO ASCERTAIN IF SINNOTT WOULD PROVIDE STATEMENT "PLEDGING NOT VIOLATE KOREAN LAWS," IMPLYING STATEMENT COULD RESULT IN REVERSAL OF DECISION. FONMIN CONFIRMED ABOVE, BUT MADE NO FIRM COMMITMENT.

5. WE ARE TRANSMITTING QUESTION TO SINNOTT, MAKING CLEAR DECISION RESTS ENTIRELY WITH HIM AND THAT WE NORMALLY URGE US CITIZENS TO OBEY LOCAL LAWS.

6. RADIO NEWS EVENING OF APRIL 25 CARRYING STORY THAT SINNOTT ORDERED TO LEAVE KOREA BY APRIL 30.

7. SINCE AT THIS STAGE ANY CONFIRMATION BY EMBASSY OF DEPARTURE ORDER MIGHT TEND TO MAKE REVERSAL MORE DIFFICULT, WE INTEND TO RESPOND TO PRESS INQUIRIES BY SAYING WE AWARE OF REPORTS ON SINNOTT BUT HAVE NO COMMENT.SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELIGIOUS LEADERS, IMMIGRATION LAW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL02935
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750145-1057
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750416/aaaaaouj.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FATHER SINNOT ORDERED TO LEAVE KOREA
TAGS: PINS, PINT, KS, (SINNOT, JAMES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006